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Agenda item 116

Human rights questions

Report of the Third Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Naif Bin Bandar Al-Sudairy (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled:

“Human rights questions:

“(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

“(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

“(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

“(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

“(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights”

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

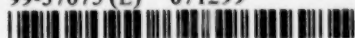
2. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 116. Human rights questions

Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1999¹

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/54/605 and Add. 1-5.

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/54/3).



Letter dated 29 December 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/56)

Letter dated 12 February 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the execution of Sean Sellers, issued on 11 February 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/65)

Letter dated 14 April 1999 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ashgabat Declaration adopted on 9 April 1999 (A/54/80)

Letter dated 29 April 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement issued on 26 April 1999 by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (A/54/91)

Letter dated 17 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice for the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the Appeal for Peace Conference, held at The Hague from 12 to 15 May 1999 (A/51/98)

Letter dated 19 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting, *inter alia*, the Budapest Declaration and the Declaration on the Kosovo Crisis, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 7 May 1999 (A/54/99)

Letter dated 5 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/114)

Letter dated 3 September 1999 from the Permanent Representatives of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/314-S/1999/942)

Letter dated 17 September 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/368-S/1999/993)

Letter dated 29 September 1999 from the Permanent Representatives of Brazil, Finland and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Declaration of Rio de Janeiro and the priorities for action adopted during the first summit meeting of Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, held at Rio de Janeiro on 28 and 29 June 1999 (A/54/448)

Letter dated 15 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in New York on 23 September 1999 (A/54/469-S/1999/1063)

Letter dated 15 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/473)

Letter dated 22 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/489-S/1999/1084)

Note verbale dated 28 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/516-S/1999/1105)

Item 116 (a). Implementation of human rights instruments

Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1999¹

Report of the Human Rights Committee²

Report of the Committee against Torture³

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (A/54/177)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (A/54/189)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/54/277 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (A/54/346)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (A/54/348)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (A/54/426)

Letter dated 27 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.3/54/5)

Item 116 (b). Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (A/54/216)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/54/222 and Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (A/54/303)

Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development (A/54/319)

Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/54/336)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Cambodia (A/54/353)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses (A/54/360)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights (A/54/399 and Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and terrorism (A/54/439)

² Ibid., *Supplement No. 40* (A/54/40), vols. I and II.

³ Ibid., *Supplement No. 44* (A/54/44).

Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections (A/54/491)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting resolution 290/40, entitled "International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition" adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session (A/54/137)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief (A/54/386)

Note by the Secretary-General on the report of the independent expert on the right to development (A/54/401)

Letter dated 5 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, transmitting a statement on the death penalty in Uganda, issued on 4 May 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/93).

Item 116 (c). Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/54/499)

Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa (A/54/188)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Rwanda (A/54/359)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/54/361)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (A/54/365)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti (A/54/366)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the periodic report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (A/54/396-S/1999/1000 and A/54/396/Add.1-S/1999/1000/Add.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (A/54/409)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (A/54/422)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/54/440)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq (A/54/466)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan (A/54/467)

Letter dated 31 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the recent killings of civilians in Burundi, issued on 27 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/302)

Letter dated 8 September 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the killings of civilians in Burundi, issued on 3 September 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/330-S/1999/958)

Letter dated 8 September 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, issued on 3 September 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/331-S/1999/959)

Letter dated 21 September 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/387)

Letter dated 12 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the forced removals of civilians in Burundi, issued on 8 October 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/465-S/1999/1060)

Letter dated 18 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, issued on 11 October 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/482-S/1999/1076)

Letter dated 20 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the killing of members of a humanitarian mission in Burundi, issued on 18 October 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/493-S/1999/1085)

Letter dated 2 November 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the extension of the ceasefire in the Sudan, issued on 21 October 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/54/527-S/1999/1125)

Letter dated 15 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/54/4)

Letter dated 1 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, issued on 22 September 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/C.3/54/8)

Letter dated 1 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement on East and West Timor, issued on 21 September 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the Union (A/C.3/54/9)

Letter dated 9 November 1999 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/54/10)

Item 116 (d). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

There were no documents before the Committee under sub-item (d).

Item 116 (e). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights⁴

II. Consideration of a draft decision proposed by the Chairman

3. At its 56th meeting, on 22 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of human rights (see para. 4).

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

4. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of human rights

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports:

- (a) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;⁴
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/54/222 and Add.1).

⁴ Ibid. Supplement No. 36 (A/54/36).



General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (a)

Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Third Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Naif Bin Bandar Al-Sudairy (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Third Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 29th to 31st meetings, on 2 and 3 November 1999, and took action at its 35th, 39th, 41st, 43rd and 50th meetings, on 5, 9 to 11 and 17 November. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/54/SR.29-31, 35, 39, 41, 43 and 50).
3. For the documents before the Committee under this item, see A/54/605.
4. At the 29th meeting, on 1 November, the Director of the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/54/SR.29).

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/54/605 and Add.1-5.



II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.8/Rev.1 and amendments thereto

5. The Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Question of the death penalty" (A/C.3/54/L.8/Rev.1) and a series of amendments thereto (A/C.3/54/L.30-L.42, L.44, L.47, L.48, L.51 and L.56).

6. At the 50th meeting, on 17 November, the Chairman informed the Committee that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.8/Rev.1 and the sponsors of the amendments thereto had indicated that they did not intend to press for action on the proposals. The Committee therefore agreed not to consider draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.8/Rev.1 and the amendments thereto.

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.50

7. At the 35th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Denmark, on behalf of Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" (A/C.3/54/L.50). Subsequently, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, El Salvador, Eritrea, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Liberia, Madagascar, Morocco, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone and South Africa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At the 41st meeting, on 10 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.50 (see A/C.3/54/SR.41).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.50 without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution I).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.52

10. At the 35th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Covenants on Human Rights" (A/C.3/54/L.52). Subsequently, Belarus, Bulgaria, Ecuador, Georgia, Latvia and Luxembourg joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

11. At the 39th meeting, on 9 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.52 (see A/C.3/54/SR.39).
12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.52 without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution II).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.53

13. At the 39th meeting, on 9 November, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Argentina, Bangladesh, Cape Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Morocco, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families" (A/C.3/54/L.53). Subsequently, Nicaragua, Portugal and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.
14. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Mexico orally revised operative paragraph 5 by deleting the words "the launching of" before the words "the global campaign".
15. At its 43rd meeting, on 11 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.53, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution III).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

16. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,² the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment³ and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

Recalling that freedom from torture is a right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of internal or international disturbance or armed conflict,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

Recalling also that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, firmly declared that efforts to eradicate torture should, first and foremost, be concentrated on prevention and called for the early adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which is intended to establish a preventive system of regular visits to places of detention,⁴

Urging all Governments to promote the speedy and full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,⁵ in particular the section relating to freedom from torture, in which it is stated that States should abrogate legislation leading to impunity for those responsible for grave violations of human rights, such as torture, and prosecute such violations, thereby providing a firm basis for the rule of law,⁶

Recalling its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Recalling also the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources to assist victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, *inter alia*, by additional contributions to the Fund,⁷

Noting with satisfaction the existence of a considerable international network of centres for the rehabilitation of torture victims, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

Mindful of the proclamation by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997 of 26 June as United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee against Torture, and takes note of the report of the Committee,⁸ submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that one hundred and eighteen States have become parties to the Convention;

3. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

4. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States that are parties to the Convention and have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have already made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

5. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention as soon as possible;

⁴ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 61.

⁵ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

⁶ *Ibid.*, sect. II, paras. 54-61.

⁷ *Ibid.*, para. 59.

⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 44 (A/54/44).*

6. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, in view of the high number of reports not submitted, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles when submitting reports to the Committee;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of Governments, advisory services for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the prevention of torture, as well as technical assistance in the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

8. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

9. *Emphasizes* the obligation of States parties under article 10 of the Convention to ensure education and training for personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

10. *Stresses* in this context that States must not punish personnel referred to in paragraph 9 above for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Welcomes* the progress made by the inter-sessional open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the development of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and urges the working group to complete as soon as possible a final text for submission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, for consideration and adoption;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,⁹ describing the overall trends and developments with regard to his mandate, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture;

13. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to examine questions of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment directed against women and conditions conducive to such torture, and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention and redress of gender-specific forms of torture, including rape or any other form of sexual violence, and to exchange views with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

14. *Also invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider questions relating to the torture of children and conditions conducive to such torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention of such torture;

15. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and to assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, in particular by supplying all necessary information requested by him, to react appropriately and expeditiously to his urgent appeals

⁹ A/54/426.

and to give serious consideration to his requests to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to his recommendations;

16. *Approves* the methods of work employed by the Special Rapporteur, in particular with regard to urgent appeals, reiterates his need to be able to respond effectively to credible and reliable information that comes before him, invites him to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, in particular Member States, and expresses its appreciation for the discreet and independent way in which he continues to carry out his work;

17. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by Governments to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered;

18. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views between the Committee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, *inter alia*, by improving their coordination;

19. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

20. *Appeals* to all Governments and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has accomplished;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

24. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its appeal for contributions and its efforts to make better known the existence of the Fund and the financial means currently available to it, as well as its assessment of the global need for international funding of rehabilitation services for torture victims, and, in this effort, to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

26. *Invites* donor countries and recipient countries to consider including in their bilateral programmes and projects relating to the training of armed forces, security forces, prison and police personnel, as well as health-care personnel, matters relating to the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture and to keep in mind a gender perspective;

27. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and a report on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture;

29. *Decides* to consider the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment at its fifty-fifth session.

Draft resolution II

International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/116 of 12 December 1997 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/9 of 3 April 1998,¹⁰

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights¹¹ constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹² form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General¹³ on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹¹ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹¹ and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁴

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in examining the progress made by States parties in implementing the obligations undertaken in the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and in providing recommendations to States parties on their implementation,

¹⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3 (E/1998/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

¹¹ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹² Resolution 217 A (III).

¹³ A/54/277 and Corr.1.

¹⁴ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights as major parts of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
2. *Appeals strongly* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as to accede to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to make the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;
3. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to intensify systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to assist such States, at their request, in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
5. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and underlines the necessity of strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency so that the justification for the appropriateness of measures taken in those circumstances can be assessed;
6. *Encourages* States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations they lodge to the International Covenants on Human Rights, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the relevant treaty or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;
7. *Also encourages* States parties to review regularly any reservations made in respect of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to withdrawing them;
8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual report of the Human Rights Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session¹⁵ and takes note of General Comments Nos. 25¹⁶ and 26¹⁷ adopted by the Committee;
9. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth and seventeenth¹⁸ and eighteenth and nineteenth¹⁹

¹⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/54/40).*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/51/40)*, vol. I, annex V.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/53/40)*, vol. I, annex VII.

¹⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2 (E/1998/22).*

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 1999, *Supplement No. 2 (E/1999/22).*

sessions and takes note of General Comments Nos. 8,²⁰ 9,²¹ 10,²² 11²³ and 12²⁴ adopted by the Committee;

10. *Urges* States parties to fulfil in good time such reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights as may be requested and in their reports to make use of gender-disaggregated data;

11. *Stresses* the importance of fully taking into account a gender perspective in the implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights at the national level, including in the national reports of States parties and in the work of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

12. *Urges* States parties to take duly into account, in implementing the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the observations made at the conclusion of the consideration of their reports by the Human Rights Committee and by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the views adopted by the Human Rights Committee under the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

13. *Invites* States parties to give particular attention to the dissemination at the national level of the reports they have submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the summary records relating to the examination of those reports by the Committees and the observations made by the Committees at the conclusion of the consideration of the reports;

14. *Once again encourages* all Governments to publish the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many local languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

15. *Invites* the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights when considering the reports of States parties to continue to identify specific needs that might be addressed by United Nations departments, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including through the advisory services and technical assistance programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

16. *Stresses* the need for improved coordination between relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies in supporting States parties, upon their request, in implementing the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and encourages continued efforts in this direction;

17. *Invites* States to continue to contribute, with practical proposals and ideas, to the dialogue on ways of improving the functioning of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

18. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to strive for uniform standards in the implementation of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, and

²⁰ Ibid., 1998, Supplement No. 2 (E/1998/22), annex V.

²¹ Ibid., 1999, Supplement No. 2 (E/1999/22), annex IV.

²² Ibid., annex V.

²³ E/C.12/1999/4.

²⁴ E/C.12/1999/5.

appeals to other bodies dealing with similar human rights questions to respect those uniform standards, as expressed in the general comments of the Committees;

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to assist States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights in the preparation of their reports, including by convening seminars or workshops at the national level for the purpose of training government officials engaged in the preparation of such reports, and by exploring other possibilities available under the regular programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates, including by the provision of adequate Secretariat staff resources;

21. *Welcomes* the initiative by the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Human Rights Committee, to take determined steps, in particular through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to give more publicity to the work of that Committee and, similarly, to the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", a report on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including all reservations and declarations.

Draft resolution III

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,²⁵ the International Covenants on Human Rights,²⁶ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,²⁷ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,²⁸ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,²⁹

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee

²⁵ Resolution 217 A (III).

²⁶ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

²⁷ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

²⁸ Resolution 34/180, annex.

²⁹ Resolution 44/25, annex.

respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Aware of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,³⁰ all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

Recalling that, in its resolution 53/137 of 9 December 1998, it requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fourth session a report on the status of the Convention,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in different parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date, and notes that, pursuant to article 87 of the Convention, only eight ratifications or accessions are still needed for it to enter into force;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Welcomes* the global campaign for the entry into force of the Convention, and invites the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1999/44 of 27 April 1999,³¹ to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

³⁰ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

to examine ways and means to overcome the obstacles existing to the full and effective protection of the human rights of this vulnerable group;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,³² and requests him to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

8. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

³² A/54/346.



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Report of the Economic and Social Council

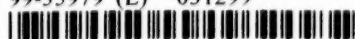
Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Naif Bin Bandar Al-Sudairy (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".
2. At the same meeting, the General Assembly decided to allocate to the Third Committee chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council¹ that were to be considered under the relevant items of the agenda (see A/C.3/54/1).
3. The Third Committee considered the item at its 56th meeting, on 22 November 1999. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the summary record of the meeting (A/C.3/54/SR.56).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1999¹ and the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999 (A/54/443).

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/54/3).



II. Consideration of proposals

A. Organization of work of the Third Committee and draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2000-2001

5. At the 56th meeting, on 22 November, the representative of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services introduced and orally revised the note by the Secretariat (A/C.3/54/L.100) entitled "Organization of work of the Third Committee and draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1999-2000" (see A/C.3/54/SR.56).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee approved its organization of work and draft biennial programme of work for 2000-2001, as orally revised (see para. 8, draft decision I).

B. Report of the Economic and Social Council

7. At its 56th meeting, on 22 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (see para. 8, draft decision II).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

8. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

Organization of work of the Third Committee and biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2000-2001

The General Assembly, pursuant to its resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990, 46/140 of 17 December 1991 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, approves the organization of work of the Third Committee and the biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2000-2001, as contained in annexes I and II to the present decision.

Annex I

Organization of work of the Third Committee

A. Guidelines concerning time limits of statements

1. In accordance with rule 106 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and paragraph 22 of decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, at the beginning of each session, the Chairman of the Third Committee should propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers.

2. Further to General Assembly resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990 and 46/140 of 17 December 1991, on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee, statements made by delegations and by Secretariat officials, unless decided otherwise by the Committee at the beginning of the session, should not exceed seven minutes. Statements made on behalf of a group of delegations or made in connection with the sub-items under the agenda item

on human rights questions should not exceed 15 minutes. These time limits will be applied with a degree of flexibility towards all speakers. With a view to saving time, all speakers are encouraged to exercise self-discipline, in particular delegations associated with group statements. For practical reasons, group statements are encouraged for the first day of the discussion of an item or sub-item. In this connection, it is important to emphasize the timely distribution of documentation in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in order to enable delegations to inscribe themselves on the list of speakers at an early stage.

B. Draft resolutions on reports of treaty bodies and reports of the Secretary-General on the status of the treaties

3. Reports of all treaty bodies will be submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with their respective legislative mandates. Substantive resolutions on those reports should be adopted biennially, in accordance with the programme of work of the Third Committee. Where possible, it is recommended that draft resolutions on the status of the treaties should not be submitted separately but should be incorporated in the draft resolution relating to the report of the treaty body. In alternate years, the Committee should simply take note of the reports unless more substantive action is deemed appropriate.

C. Proposals emanating from subsidiary organs of the Economic and Social Council

4. The Economic and Social Council, in transmitting proposals to the General Assembly should, to the extent possible, bear in mind the programme of work of the Third Committee.

D. Programme of work

5. An informal meeting of the Third Committee should be held immediately after the election of the members of its Bureau in order to consider the programme of work of the Committee based on a draft to be prepared by the Secretariat and to consider other organizational aspects relating to the Committee's work, especially the status of documentation.

6. The items allocated to the Third Committee for consideration during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly should be taken up in the following order:

Item

2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;
3. Crime prevention and criminal justice;
4. International drug control;
5. Advancement of women;
6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";
7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions;
8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children;
9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination;^a
11. Right of peoples to self-determination;^b
12. Human rights questions:^{b c}
 - (a) Implementation of human rights instruments;
 - (b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
 - (c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
 - (d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;
 - (e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;
1. Report of the Economic and Social Council.

7. This arrangement may be reviewed at the organizational meeting of the Third Committee, particularly in the light of the status of documentation at that time.

E. Preparation and submission of draft resolutions

8. In drawing up draft resolutions, delegations are requested to adhere to the programme of work of the Third Committee as reproduced below.
9. Delegations are invited to take into account the general guidelines agreed upon in Assembly resolutions 45/175 and 46/140 regarding the submission of draft proposals and as set out below.^d

Item 1

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Annual

World social situation

Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons and related activities (1999)

^a Items 10 and 11 are to be discussed jointly. Delegates may make two separate statements, that is, one on each item, if they so wish.

^b Sub-items (a) and (d) are to be discussed separately; sub-items (b), (c) and (e) are to be discussed jointly.

^c Delegations may make one statement each under sub-items (a) and (d) and two statements under sub-items (b), (c) and (e), but should not make two statements on any one sub-item.

^d References to "odd" and "even" years refer to calendar years.

Biennial

Implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond (odd years)

Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (odd years)

United Nations literacy decade (odd years)

Family (odd years)

Cooperatives in social development (odd years)

Quinquennial

Review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (2002)

Item 3**Crime prevention and criminal justice***Annual*

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Quinquennial

United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Item 4**International drug control***Annual*

Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control and the Global Programme of Action against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; international cooperation to counter the world drug problem; respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking; United Nations International Drug Control Programme; measures to strengthen international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related matters; implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

Biennial

Update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (even years)

Item 5**Advancement of women***Annual*

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

United Nations Development Fund for Women

Biennial

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (odd years)

Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (2001)

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (odd years)

Violence against women migrant workers (odd years)

Traffic in women and girls (even years)

Item 6

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Annual

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Item 7

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Annual

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States

Biennial

Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (2001)

New international humanitarian order (even years)

Quinquennial

Extension of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2002)

Item 8

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Annual

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; children with disabilities; prevention and eradication of the sale of children, and of their sexual exploitation, including child prostitution and child pornography; protection of children affected by armed conflict; refugee and internally displaced children; elimination of the exploitation of child labour; plight of children living and/or working on the streets; the girl child

Biennial

Convention on the Rights of the Child (even years)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (even years)

Item 9

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Annual

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

Item 10

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Annual

Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Preparations for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Biennial

Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2000) (General Assembly resolution 53/131)

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (even years)

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (even years)

Item 11

Right of peoples to self-determination

Annual

Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

Item 12

Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Annual

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (to be considered biennially after the entry into force of the Convention)

Report of the Committee against Torture

Status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Biennial

Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (even years)

Status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (even years)

International Covenants on Human Rights (odd years)

Reports of meetings of persons chairing United Nations human rights treaty bodies (even years)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Annual

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Right to development

Protection of migrants (2000)

Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights (2000)

Situation of human rights in Cambodia (2000)

Human rights and cultural diversity (2000)

Declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms (2000)

Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

Strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

United Nations Decade on Human Rights Education and public information activities in the field of human rights

Respect for universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

Biennial

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (even years)

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (even years)

Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (even years)

Human rights and terrorism (odd years)

National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights (odd years)

Human rights and extreme poverty (even years)

Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (odd years)

Human rights and mass exoduses (odd years)

Human rights in the administration of justice (odd years)

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (odd years)

Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections (odd years)

Human rights and scientific and technological progress (odd years)

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (odd years)

Strengthening of the rule of law (2000)

Quinquennial

Award of human rights prizes (2003)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Annual

Implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Annual

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Annex II

Draft biennial programme of work of the Third Committee for 2000-2001

2000^a

Item 1

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

^a The programme of work and documentation for 2000 will be revised in the light of the relevant decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council in 2000.

Report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons

Item 3

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on appropriate follow-up to conclusions and recommendations of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General on concrete proposals to strengthen the programmes and activities of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity

Item 4

International drug control

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Secretary-General containing the biennial update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (General Assembly resolution 48/112)

Item 5

Advancement of women

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 45/124)

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180) (through the Economic and Social Council)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)

Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls (General Assembly resolution 53/116)

Report of the Secretary-General on the revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Item 6

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Item 7

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (through the Economic and Social Council)

Report of the Secretary-General on a new international humanitarian order (General Assembly resolution 53/124)

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Item 8

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict

Report of the Secretary-General on the rights of the child

Comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the girl child

Item 9

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Item 10

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 53/131)

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 53/131)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Report of the Secretary-General on proposals for the full implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the world conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (General Assembly resolution 53/132)

Item 11

Right of peoples to self-determination

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the rights of peoples to self-determination

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries

Item 12

Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (General Assembly resolution 260 A (III))

Report of the Committee against Torture (General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex)

Report of the Secretary-General on effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (General Assembly resolution 53/138)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports of the meetings of persons chairing United Nations human rights treaty bodies (General Assembly resolution 53/138)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Documentation

Interim report of the Special Rapporteur on elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and cultural diversity

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Cambodia

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of migrants

Report of the Secretary-General on measures to implement the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the rule of law (General Assembly resolution 53/142)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (General Assembly resolution 53/147)

Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (General Assembly resolution 53/148)

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (General Assembly resolution 53/150)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Human rights and extreme poverty (General Assembly resolution 53/146)

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Question of human rights in Afghanistan

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iraq

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

Situation of human rights in Haiti

Situation of human rights in the Sudan

Situation of human rights in Kosovo

Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

Situation of human rights in Rwanda

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Documentation

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (General Assembly resolution 48/121)

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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2001

Item 1

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (through the Commission on Social Development)

Report of the Secretary-General on a proposal for a United Nations literacy decade (through the Economic and Social Council)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the General Assembly resolution on cooperatives in social development (through the Economic and Social Council)

Report of the Secretary-General on the appropriate ways and means to observe the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 (through the Economic and Social Council)

Item 3

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 4

International drug control

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (General Assembly resolution 47/100)

Item 5

Advancement of women

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)

Report of the Secretary-General on the problem of violence against women migrant workers

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 45/124)

Item 6

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 7

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Item 8

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Documentation

Item 9

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Item 10

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the final outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (General Assembly resolution 53/132)

Item 11

Right of peoples to self-determination

Item 12

Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))

Report of the Committee against Torture (General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and terrorism

Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General on respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes

Report of the representative of the Secretary-General on the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses

Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Human rights in the administration of justice

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 48/121)

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 48/141)

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**Draft decision II
Report of the Economic and Social Council**

The General Assembly takes note of chapters I, III, IV, V, VII (sections A, C and I) and IX of the report of the Economic and Social Council.²

² Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/54/3).



General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 152

Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property

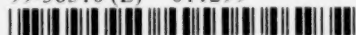
Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Joško Klisović (Croatia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly resolution 53/98 of 8 December 1998.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.
3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 30th and 36th meetings, on 12 and 19 November 1999. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/54/SR.30 and 36).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Working Group of the International Law Commission on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property;¹
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/54/266);
 - (c) Report of the Chairman of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/54/L.12).

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10 and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2), annex.



5. The General Assembly in its resolution 53/98 decided to establish at its fifty-fourth session an open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee, open also to participation by States members of the specialized agencies, to consider outstanding substantive issues related to the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission, taking into account the recent developments of State practice and legislation and any other factors related to the issue since the adoption of the draft articles, as well as the comments submitted by States in accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 49/61 of 9 December 1994 and paragraph 2 of Assembly resolution 52/151 of 15 December 1997, and to consider whether there were any issues identified by the working group upon which it would be useful to seek further comments and recommendations of the Commission.

6. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 September, the Sixth Committee elected Gerhard Hafner (Austria) Chairman of the Working Group. The Working Group held four meetings, on 8 and 9 November.

7. At the 30th meeting, on 12 November, the Chairman of the Working Group presented an oral report on the work accomplished by the Working Group (see A/C.6/54/L.12 and A/C.6/54/SR.36).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.19 and Corr.1

8. At the 36th meeting, on 19 November, the representative of Japan and coordinator of the informal consultations introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property" (A/C.6/54/L.19 and Corr.1).

9. The representative of Germany made a statement before the adoption of the draft resolution (see A/C.6/54/SR.36).

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.19 and Corr.1 without a vote (see para. 11).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

11. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/98 of 8 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Working Group of the International Law Commission on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property, annexed to the report of the Commission on the work of its fifty-first session,²

Also having considered the oral report made to the Sixth Committee by the Chairman of the open-ended working group of the Committee established under resolution 53/98,³

² Ibid.

³ See A/C.6/54/L.12 and A/C.6/54/SR.36.

Further having considered the report of the Secretary-General,⁴

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group of the International Law Commission on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property, annexed to the report of the Commission on the work of its fifty-first session;¹

2. *Urges* States, if they have not yet done so, to submit their comments to the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/61 of 9 December 1994, and also invites States to submit in writing to the Secretary-General, by 1 August 2000, their comments on the report of the Working Group;²

3. *Decides* that the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee established under resolution 53/98 will continue its work at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly to consider the future form of, and outstanding substantive issues related to, the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission at its forty-third session;⁵

4. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property".

⁴ A/54/266.

⁵ *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1991*, vol. II (Part Two), document A/46/10, para. 28.

**General Assembly**

Distr.: General
29 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 153

**United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching,
Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of
International Law**

Report of the Sixth Committee

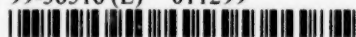
Rapporteur: Mr. Joško Klisović (Croatia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly resolution 52/152 of 15 December 1997.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.
3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 30th and 36th meetings, on 12 and 19 November 1999. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/54/SR.30 and 36).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/54/515).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.14 and Corr.1

5. At the 36th meeting, on 19 November, the representative of Ghana introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law" (A/C.6/54/L.14 and Corr.1).



6. The representative of Solomon Islands made a statement in explanation of position before the adoption of the draft resolution (see A/C.6/54/SR.36).
7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.14 and Corr.1 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law¹ and the guidelines and recommendations on future implementation of the Programme which were adopted by the Advisory Committee on the Programme and are contained in section III of that report,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by States at the bilateral level to provide assistance in the teaching and study of international law,

Convinced, nevertheless, that States and international organizations and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme and increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2464 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2550 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2838 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971, 3106 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, 3502 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 32/146 of 16 December 1977, 36/108 of 10 December 1981 and 38/129 of 19 December 1983, in which it stated or recalled that in the conduct of the Programme it was desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international organizations and others, as well as its resolutions 34/144 of 17 December 1979, 40/66 of 11 December 1985, 42/148 of 7 December 1987, 44/28 of 4 December 1989, 46/50 of 9 December 1991 and 48/29 of 9 December 1993, in which, in addition, it expressed or reaffirmed the hope that, in appointing lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programme in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

Welcoming the establishment of the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law,

¹ A/54/515.

1. *Approves* the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General¹ and adopted by the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, in particular those designed to achieve the best possible results in the administration of the Programme within a policy of maximum financial restraint;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 2000 and 2001 the activities specified in his report, including the provision of:

(a) A number of international law fellowships in both 2000 and 2001, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme and to be awarded at the request of Governments of developing countries;

(b) A minimum of one scholarship in both 2000 and 2001 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions made specifically to the fellowship fund;

(c) Subject to the overall resources for the Programme, assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country, who would be invited to possible regional courses to be organized in 2000 and 2001;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget, when appropriate, as well as from voluntary financial contributions earmarked for each of the activities concerned, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 13 to 15 of the present resolution;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his constructive efforts to promote training and assistance in international law within the framework of the Programme in 1998 and 1999, in particular for the organization of the thirty-fourth² and thirty-fifth³ sessions of the International Law Seminar, held at Geneva in 1998 and 1999, respectively, and for the activities of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat related to the fellowship programme in international law and to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, carried out, respectively, through its Codification Division and its Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of admitting, for participation in the various components of the Programme, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider the relative advantages of using available resources and voluntary contributions for regional, subregional or national courses, as against courses organized within the United Nations system;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary resources to the programme budget for the Programme for the next and the future bienniums with a view to maintaining the effectiveness of the Programme;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations *Treaty Series* and the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, as well as efforts made to place on the Internet the *Treaty Series* and other legal information;

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/53/10)*, chap. X, sect. H.

³ *Ibid.*, *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr. 1 and 2), chap. X, sect. E.

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

9. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

10. *Further expresses its appreciation* to the Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme, which has enabled candidates under the fellowship programme in international law to attend and participate in the Programme in conjunction with the Academy courses;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Hague Academy of International Law to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

12. *Urges* all States and relevant international organizations, whether regional or universal, to make all possible efforts to implement the goals and carry out the activities contemplated in section IV of the programme of activities for the final term (1997-1999) of the United Nations Decade of International Law, dealing with the encouragement of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law and contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 51/157 of 16 December 1996;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

14. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions, *inter alia*, for the International Law Seminar, the fellowship programme in international law, the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea and the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, institutions and individuals which have made voluntary contributions for this purpose;

15. *Urges* in particular all Governments to make voluntary contributions for the organization of regional refresher courses in international law by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, especially with a view to covering the amount needed for the financing of the daily subsistence allowance for up to twenty-five participants in each regional course, thus alleviating the burden on prospective host countries and making it possible for the Institute to continue to organize the regional courses;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the Programme during 2000 and 2001 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years;

17. *Decides* to appoint twenty-five Member States, six from Africa, five from Asia, three from Eastern Europe, five from Latin America and the Caribbean and six from Western Europe and other States, as members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations

Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, for a period of four years beginning on 1 January 2000;⁴

18. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

⁴ States appointed members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law are the following: Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.